

Cuyahoga Challenge

Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and the Cuyahoga Valley Association challenge you to hike 25 miles of beautiful trails in the valley. Participants who hike the following designated trails receive a commemorative patch designed by local artist Chuck Ayers. To qualify, trail segments must be hiked between April 20, when the series kicks-off at the 8th Annual March for Parks event, and July 31, 2002.



Participants may hike the trail segments on their own and have their registration sheets validated at any National Park Service visitor center. Hikers may also attend ranger-led programs on qualifying trails. These programs will be designated as *Cuyahoga Challenge* hikes in the CVNP *Schedule of Events*.

Please use a separate entry for each participant. Forms may be duplicated. Completed forms may be redeemed at any CVNP visitor center or mailed to Cuyahoga Challenge, 15610 Vaughn Road, Brecksville, OH, 44141. Forms redeemed by mail must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All forms should be redeemed by September 1, 2002.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____		*Reminder: Trail segments must be hiked between April 20 and July 31.
Trail Segment	Length (in miles)	Ranger Initials and Date
Haskell Run	.50	
Oak Hill (inner loop)	1.50	
Ledges Trail	2.20	
Boston Run Trail	3.40	
Towpath Trail - Hunt Farm to Ira (and return)	3.50	
Stanford Trail and Brandywine Gorge Trail (and return) combination*	4.50	
Carriage Trail (access from Red Lock Trailhead)**	5.25	
Lake and Salt Run Trail combination*** (Note: Hiking this combination makes total Challenge distance 26.25 miles)	5.40	
Total	25.00	
*The following three trail segments may be substituted for the longer Stanford/Brandywine Gorge Trail combination:		
Trail to Covered Bridge (and return)	.50	
Brandywine Gorge Trail	1.50	
Pine Grove Trail (access from Octagon)	2.50	
**The following two trail segments may be substituted for the longer Carriage Trail segment.		
Towpath Trail - Station Road Bridge to Great Blue Heronry/Mile Marker 16 (and return)	2.25	
Cross Country Trail	2.50	
***The following three trail segments may be substituted for the longer Lake/Salt Run combination:		
Forest Point Trail (access from Octagon Shelter)	.50	
Lake Trail	1.00	
Tree Farm Trail	2.75	

Haskell Run is a short, 0.5 mile, loop trail that begins and ends outside Happy Days Visitor Center located on State Route 303, between Peninsula and State Route 8. The trail has an easy rating and takes approximately 30 minutes to hike.

Oak Hill Trail leaves from the northeast corner of the Oak Hill Trailhead parking lot on Oak Hill Road. Oak Hill Road can be reached by taking Riverview Road south from Peninsula then heading west on Major Road to Oak Hill Road. This easy trail around Sylvan Pond is the 1.5-mile inner loop of the area's trail system and takes about 45 minutes to complete.

The **Ledges Trail** is a 2.2-mile moderate loop trail that begins at the Ledges Shelter on Truxell Road. From the shelter, follow the service road north to the first trail intersection and turn right. The trail will descend along the ledges to the main loop of the trail. Follow the trail in either direction and you should complete the loop in about 1.5 hours.

Boston Run Trail begins in the northeast corner of the Happy Days Visitor Center parking lot on the north side of State Route 303. This 3.4-mile loop trail is rated moderate and takes 2 hours to hike.

The **Towpath Trail from Hunt Farm to Ira** (and return) is a 3.5-mile, easy walk leaving from the Hunt Farm Visitor Information Center on Bolanz Road between Riverview and Akron-Peninsula roads. The hike can be completed in 1.5 hours.

The **Stanford Trail/Brandywine Gorge Trail*** combination begins with the **Stanford Trail** and leaves from behind the barn of the Stanford Hostel on Stanford Road. This 1.5 mile (each way) trail is moderately difficult and intersects with the **Brandywine Gorge Trail** to the right. Follow the Brandywine Gorge loop completely and upon completion, return via the Stanford Trail. Total distance is 4.5 miles and hiking time is approximately 2 hours.

*The following three trail segments may be combined and substituted for the longer Stanford/Brandywine combination:

Trail to Covered Bridge (and return) is less than .5 miles. Parking is on Everett Road 0.5 mile west of Riverview Road. Along this short segment is a nice area that provides seating appropriate for a picnic or quiet reflection.

Brandywine Gorge Trail can be reached by parking at Brandywine Falls Trailhead on Brandywine Road. Follow the signs to the boardwalk and then continue around the falls toward the historic Inn at Brandywine Falls. The Brandywine Gorge Trail enters the woods beyond animal pens at the inn. This 1.25-mile trail is rated as moderate and takes approximately 1 hour to hike. Following periods of heavy rain, the stepping stones used to cross Brandywine Creek may become slippery or submerged. During these periods, it is recommended that you return along the trail the way you came.

Pine Grove Trail is a 2.2-mile loop trail that leaves from the Octagon Shelter on Truxell Road. This trail is rated as moderate and takes approximately 1.25 hours to hike.

The **Carriage Trail**** should be accessed from the Towpath Trail leaving from Red Lock Trailhead on Highland Road. Hike north 0.5 miles to the Carriage Trail and follow the moderately difficult loop for 3.25 miles until it once again intersects the Towpath Trail. Hike south along the Towpath Trail to the starting point for a total distance of 5.25 miles. Hiking time is about 2.5 hours.

**The following two trail segments may be combined and substituted for the longer Carriage Trail segment.

The **Cross Country Trail** is a moderately easy, 2.5-mile loop trail that is accessible from the Kendall Lake parking lot on Truxell Road. Begin at the trailhead bulletin board and you will find yourself back at your starting location in about 1.5 hours.

The **Towpath Trail from Station Road Bridge to the Great Blue Heronry/Mile Marker 16** (and return) is an easy 2.25 mile hike along the Towpath Trail which can be completed in 1.5 hours. Begin at the Station Road Bridge parking area on Riverview Road just south of State Route 82. Follow the Towpath Trail north to the stone monument indicating mile 16 along the Ohio & Erie Canal. Return along the same trail. If you scan the treetops across the Cuyahoga River you will likely notice Great Blue Herons nesting and feeding in the area.

The **Cross Country Trail** is a moderately easy, 2.5-mile loop trail that is accessible from the Kendall Lake parking lot on Truxell Road. Begin at the trailhead bulletin board and you will find yourself back at your starting location in about 1.5 hours.

The **Lake/Salt Run Trail***** combination leaves from the Kendall Lake parking lot on Truxell Road. Begin by hiking the Lake Trail to the start of the Salt Run trail south of the dam at the west end of the lake. The Salt Run Trail is a moderately difficult 4.4 mile trail that is more easily hiked when dry. Following completion of the Salt Run Trail continue the Lake Trail Loop back to the start. Estimated time to this 5.4 mile combination is 2.5 hours. Note: Hiking this combination makes total Challenge distance 26.25 miles

***The following three trail segments may be combined and substituted for the longer Lake/Salt Run combination:

Forest Point Trail is an easy 0.5-mile trail that leaves from the southwest corner of the field behind the Octagon Shelter on Truxell Road. It takes 30 minutes to hike this short loop.

The **Lake Trail** leaves from the Kendall Lake parking lot on Truxell Road. The 1-mile trail around Kendall Lake is rated as easy and takes approximately 45 minutes to hike.

Tree Farm Trail is accessible from the Horseshoe Pond parking lot on Major Road south of Peninsula. This 2.75 mile loop is rated easy to moderate and takes approximately 1.5 hours to hike.